

OUR CHALET SUMMER EVENTS

FOR GUIDES AND SCOUTS AGED 11-18

2023



What are the summer event options and who can take part?

Our summer events offer three different options for groups of Guides and Scouts from countries around the world.

Explore and Adventure events are designed for Guides and Scouts aged 12-18 accompanied by a limited number of adult leaders.

Discover events are open to Guides and Scouts aged 11-18 accompanied by a limited number of adult leaders. Leaders must be sure that all participants in their group are socially and emotionally capable of participating in an active week with peers aged 11-18. 11-year-olds are not permitted to take part in Explore or Adventure events.

All three events offer:

- Six-night stay
- Pinning ceremony and guided tour on arrival evening
- Four day programmes
- One free day – plan your own activity
- Four evening programmes

The three different events offer programme with varying levels of physical activity. However, it is important to note that no matter which event you choose, Our Chalet is located at 1,350 metres (4,400 feet) above sea level and in a mountainous location. The nearest public transport is a 1 km (0.6 miles) steep uphill walk from Our Chalet. **All participants, including leaders, must be physically capable of this walk, or be prepared to pay for their own extra transport throughout their stay.** Exceptions are possible to enable Guides/Scouts with disabilities to participate (more information below).

How much physical activity is involved in each event?

The Information Pack for each event gives descriptions of physical activity involved in the programme. As a general overview:

Discover event – includes kayaking, walking around villages/towns, and short, technically easy hikes. Some slightly more difficult hikes are available as optional activities.

Explore event – includes adventure park with rock climbing, walking around villages/towns, and medium distance hikes some of which are on steep or uneven trails.

Adventure event – includes adventure park with rock climbing, a klettersteig/via ferrata trail, and long hikes some of which are on steep, rocky, or uneven trails.

We strongly recommend reading the activity descriptions in the Information Packs carefully before choosing your event.

Do all the leaders need to be physically fit enough to participate in the activities?

Yes, leaders must be physically fit enough to participate in the activities. Leaders are responsible for their group, including attending to any first-aid needs, at all times. Therefore, it is not possible for leaders to send participants on an activity without participating themselves.

Leaders should also be able to lead by example and encourage their youth participants to participate in physically demanding activities, especially in the Explore and Adventure events.

The exception to this are activities at the adventure park, where leaders must complete the walk to/from the park but are not required to participate in the activities at the park.

Groups that have extra leaders, e.g. leaders who are fulfilling the role of caterer for campers or carer for a young person with a disability, may not need all leaders to be able to participate in all activities. Please enquire about this at the time of booking.

Our group has people who are unfit/don't like walking/have an injury; can they use the transport option outlined in the adaptations section of the activity descriptions?

The transport options outlined in the adaptations information are to allow participants with permanent physical disabilities that affect their mobility to take part in the programme.

For participants with temporary conditions that affect their mobility (e.g. sprained ankle, broken leg, etc.) or for those who do not wish to walk, taxis can be arranged at the cost of the participant/group.

Our group has a youth member who has a sensory impairment/learning disability/physical disability/medical condition; can we take part?

Our Chalet would like to welcome as many young people as possible to take part in our events. We will do our best to accommodate participants with disabilities and/or medical conditions. Please let us know at the time of booking what accommodations may be needed. To request detailed information about accessibility in our accommodation is available, e-mail info@ourchalet.waggs.org.

Please note that summer events are designed for Guides/Scouts aged 12-18 (with the exception of Discover event, which is suitable for those aged 11-18) and participants must be emotionally and socially capable of taking part in activities with peers of this age.

How many leaders can we bring with our group? Why is there a limit on this number?

As a WAGGGS World Centre, Our Chalet places girls and young women at the centre of all our work. Our programme aims to enable girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world.

In line with this mission, Our Chalet works to ensure as many girls and young women as possible are able to take part in the event programmes offered. Our Chalet uses an adult:youth ratio to keep as many summer event places as possible open to youth participants, while also making sure groups are able to be accompanied by the correct number of adult leaders to keep all participants appropriately supervised and safe.

The ratio is two adults (aged 18+) for every eight youth participants (age 12-18 for Explore and Adventure events or 11-18 for Discover events). 18-year-olds may book on to the event as a youth participant if they are a youth participant in their organisation. If an 18-year-old is a leader in their organisation they must book on to the event as an adult.

Exceptions to this ratio can be made if extra adults are needed:

- to provide support, supervision or care for a youth participant with a disability or medical condition which means the participant requires 1:1 support; or
- to meet the international travel requirements of the group's Member Organisation.

Evidence of the need for additional adults to fulfill these criteria may be requested at the time of booking.

One extra adult may also be permitted for groups camping outdoors who require an extra leader to attend in the role of caterer for their group.

Adults above the 2:8 ratio not needed to fulfill these criteria may book on to the event at a later date and subject to an additional fee, subject to availability. Full details of the adult:youth ratio and how to book additional adults can be obtained by e-mailing info@ourchalet.wagggs.org.

Can we book on to more than one event?

Yes! Subject to availability, groups are welcome to book on to two consecutive events, e.g. Explore and Adventure.

We recommend groups pay careful attention to the activities involved in each event and choose the combination of events with the right level of physical activity for their group.

For groups booking in to two events one night of independent accommodation between the two events can be offered at a reduced price.